

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-23 (cancelled)

24. (previously presented) Method for establishing a co-ordination connection between a first and a second control centre for carrying out services in an intelligent telecommunications network,

the first and the second centres each being capable of processing in an autonomous manner a first and a second service request, respectively, and the network comprising, in addition to communication channels used to establish telecommunications connections between various terminals which are connected to the network, communication channels which are reserved for conveying call control signals for controlling the establishment, the modification and/or the release of each telecommunications connection in this network,

this method comprising a phase for processing a call which is initiated each time a call is transmitted by a client and which comprises a step for establishing the co-ordination connection using an address of at least one of the two centres so that these centres can co-ordinate their respective operations for processing the first and second service requests from the client

wherein:

- in that one of the centres transmits its address to the other centre by inserting this address in one of the call control signals transmitted to the other centre, and

- in that the centre having received the address inserted in a call control signal establishes the co-ordination connection by using communication channels which are separate from those used to convey the call control signal in which the address of one of the centres is inserted.

25. (previously presented) Method according to claim 24, wherein when a plurality of call processing phases are carried out simultaneously for different clients of the network, the centre which inserts its address in the call control signal further inserts an identifier of the call processed, and in that the first and second centres for carrying out services indicate the call concerned by means of the co-ordination data transmitted via the co-ordination connection by using this identifier so as to co-ordinate their respective operation for processing each call.

26. (previously presented) Method according to claim 24, wherein only the co-ordination connection is used to exchange co-ordination data for the respective operations for processing the first and second service requests implemented by the two centres for carrying out services.

27. (previously presented) Method according to claim 24 for a network, in which the call control signal comprises at least one address field which is capable of receiving the network address of the second centre, this field further comprising a portion which is not used when the address of the second centre is recorded in this field, wherein the address of the first centre and/or the call identifier are inserted in the unused portion of the address field so that these data are propagated jointly via the network to the second centre.

28. (previously presented) Method according to claim 24 for a network, in which the first and second centres are connected to different control points of the network, the control points of the network being capable of connecting the various communication channels to each other in order to form the telecommunications connections, wherein:

- the first centre and the second centre communicate with their respective control point by using a first communication protocol for receiving and/or transmitting the call control signals,

- the various control points of the network communicate with each other by using a second communication protocol which is different from the first for transmitting and/or receiving the call control signals, and

- the first and second centres communicate with each other via the co-ordination connection by using a third communication protocol which is different from the first and second communication protocols.

29. (previously presented) Method according to claim 28, wherein the first communication protocol is the INAP protocol (Intelligent Network Application Protocol), and in that the second communication protocol is the ISUP protocol (Integrated Service Digital Network - User Part).

30. (previously presented) Method according to claim 24 for a network, in which the first and second centres are connected to different control points of the network, the control points of the network being capable of connecting the various communication channels to each other in order to form the telecommunications connections, wherein

- the first centre and the second centre communicate with their respective control point by using a first communication protocol for receiving and/or transmitting the call control signals,

- the various control points of the network communicate with each other by also using the first protocol, and

- the first and second centres communicate with each other via the co-ordination connection by using a second communication protocol which is different from the first communication protocol.

31. (previously presented) Method according to claim 30, wherein the first communication protocol is the SIP protocol (Session Initiation Protocol).

32. (currently amended) An intelligent ~~Intelligent~~ telecommunications network, the intelligent telecommunications network ~~which is~~ capable of establishing a co-ordination connection between a first and a second control centre for carrying out services, the intelligent telecommunications network ~~this network~~ comprising:

- the first and second centres, these centres each being capable of processing in an autonomous manner a first and a second service request, respectively,

- communication channels which are used to establish telecommunications connections between various terminals which are connected to the network, and

- communication channels which are reserved for conveying call control signals in order to control the establishment, the modification and/or the release of each telecommunications connection for this network,

this network being capable of carrying out a phase for processing a call which is initiated each time a call is transmitted by a client and which comprises a step for establishing the co-ordination connection using an address of at least one of the two centres so that these centres can co-ordinate their respective operations for processing the first and second service requests from the client,

~~wherein the centres are capable of establishing the co-ordination connection by using a method in accordance with claim 24~~ in that one of the centres transmits its address to the other centre by inserting this address in one of the call control signals transmitted to the other centre, and

in that the centre having received the address inserted in a call control signal establishes the co-ordination connection by using communication channels which are separate from those used to convey the call control signal in which the address of one of the centres is inserted.

33. (currently amended) A centre ~~Centre~~ for controlling the carrying out of services which is suitable for being used in an intelligent telecommunications network, wherein this centre is capable of establishing a co-ordination connection with another centre ~~by using a method in accordance with claim 24~~ comprising:

the centre capable of processing in an autonomous manner a first and a second service request, respectively, communication channels which are used to establish telecommunications connections between various terminals which are connected to the network, and

communications channels which are reserved for conveying call control signals in order to control the establishment, the modification and/or the release of each telecommunications connection for this network,

this network being capable of carrying out a phase for processing a call which is initiated each time a call is transmitted by a client and which comprises a step for establishing the co-ordination connection using an address of the centre so that these centre can co-ordinate its respective operations for processing the first and second service requests from the client with an other centre,

wherein the centre transmits its address to the other centre by inserting this address in one of the call control signals transmitted to the other centre, and

- in that the other centre having received the address inserted in a call control signal establishes the co-ordination connection by using communication channels which are separate from those used to convey the call control signal in which the address of one of the centre is inserted.

34. (new) The method according to claim 24,
wherein the address of the centres is an IP network address.